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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,422	01/22/2002	Johan Frederik Dijkman	NL 010039	7251

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

SNIDER, THERESA T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1744

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

CLOS

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/055,422	DIJKSMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Theresa T. Snider	1744	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of the inclusion of legal phraseology; lines 3 and 10, 'said', lines 4 and 6, 'means'; line 8, 'comprises'. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Exemplary of such:

For ease of reading, it is suggested the appropriate headings('Summary of the Invention', 'Brief Description of the Drawings', etc) be inserted in the appropriate location.

Page 1, line 28, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'much time'.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Exemplary of such:

Claim 1, lines 1-6, it is unclear as to whether Applicant is intending to set forth a Jepson format or simply a preamble;

Line 6, 'characterized in that' should be replaced with a phrase more commonly used in US practice;

Line 8, it is unclear as to how one can have rolling motion of an object that isn't really there along a direction that isn't really there.

Claims 2-5, line 1, 'A' should be replaced with 'The';

Line 1, 'characterized in that' should be replaced with a phrase more commonly used in US practice.

Claim 2, line 2, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'arranged at regular intervals in accordance';

Line 2, it is unclear as to how something can be arranged in accordance with an object that isn't really there;

Line 3, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'in accordance';

Line 4, 'separate' from what?

Line 5, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'number of rolls'.

Claim 4, line 2, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'substantially up to'.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

6. Claims 2-5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 1744

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art discloses robots for vacuum cleaning surfaces having housings, a suction unit, a suction nozzle, a motor drivable wheel system and an electrical control member HOWEVER fails to disclose or fairly suggest the displacement of the robot, as controlled by the control member, being a substantially cycloid movement brought about by a rolling motion of a circle along a line of displacement of the housing over the surface to be cleaned.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nakanishi, Dyson et al. and Yokoi disclose robots for vacuum cleaning surfaces.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Theresa T. Snider whose telephone number is (703) 305-0554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Wednesday-Friday (6:30AM-3:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Warden can be reached on (703) 308-2920. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Theresa T. Snider
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

TTS

11/3/03